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Title: Need to give approval to the Kochi Metro Rail Project in Kerala.

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN (KASARGOD): The Government of Kerala had decided to implement the Kochi Metro Project on the lines of the Delhi Metro project where 30 per cent of the project cost was to be borne by the State and Central Government on a 50:50 basis and the balance amount was to be raised as debt from lending agencies. The detailed project report was prepared by the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation Ltd. (DMRC) and the Union Ministry of Urban Development had approved the project. However, the Planning Commission has refused to approve the project. The Planning Commission wants a private party brought into the Metro Project on a Private-Public-Partnership (PPP) model on the lines of the Hyderabad Metro Project. I urge upon the Prime Minister to intervene into the matter and ensure a speedy approval of the Kochi Metro Rail Project on the basis of the funding pattern suggested by the Government of Kerala.